

# CBC News

[www.corstorphinebowlingclub.co.uk](http://www.corstorphinebowlingclub.co.uk)

August 2016

**Dear Member,**

First of all, it was sad to hear of the passing of Alex Ellis. Alex had been a regular attendee at Social functions as a guest of Ricky & Fay Stevens but shortly after accepting full membership he became ill and unfortunately didn't manage to take part in our bowling activities.

Apologies for the lateness of this issue but I have been lazing around enjoying some late sunshine and probably still recovering from the 125 celebrations. Talking of the "125", I can confirm that a total of £1,200 was raised for the nominated charity, Friends of Corstorphine Hill and a cheque for that amount will be handed over in the near future. 125 years is a long time to be in existence but nothing in comparison to a Club I played at last week in the "Half Cut Trophy" - ( that's a long story I won't bother you with) but Haddington Bowling Club have been in existence since 1707, the year the parliaments of Scotland and England merged. Is this the oldest Club in Scotland? (The following link provides some answers. <http://www.sportscotland.org.uk/trophies/sports/bowls/> )

Over the last month, there has been lots of Bowling activity on the Green and I hope to be in a position to provide a list of all the finalists in next month's issue.

First of all, congratulations to David McNiven who triumphed over George Richardson in the Gents final. David took an early lead but gradually George kept plugging away and possibly the worst thing that could have happened was that he got 4 shots to peel at 13, only for David to hit back with similar scores at the next two ends and the match was over. David then went through two rounds of the Tait Trophy (Champion of Champions of Edinburgh Clubs). Another first time winner of the Championship.

Its also congratulations to Jean Meiklejohn who beat Pat Reid in an excellent match to lift the Ladies title. Jean established an early lead but Pat and her traded shots over the next 90 minutes before Jean crossed the finishing line at 21-17. Jean then had a good run in the Steel Trophy (Ladies champion of champions) before eventually losing out at the semi-final stage.

The various leagues have either ended or are drawing to a close. Unfortunately, the Monday evening ladies in the Edinburgh Bowling League (EBL) were just not good enough to maintain their place in the top division but I am sure they will come back stronger next season. In the Water of Leith (Wednesday afternoons) the Ladies are now just one point behind leaders Colinton after a great win against them today (31<sup>st</sup> Aug) and with one game to go the title is in the balance - good luck ladies.

In the Gents leagues, the third team are Champions of their Division 1 and I am sure there will be a wee celebratory drink on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. when President Kenny Logan returns to the Club with the Championship Trophy - well done to all.

The second sixteen finished second in their Division 1 just dropping out of the top spot on the last two weeks, but a great season none the less.

The first sixteen finished a creditable fourth in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division. One notable performance was that it was the first time in around 10 years that the team was unbeaten at home (no complaints about the green methinks!!). One other thing happened at the final home game - yep, I done it again - delivered a bowl at the trial end before the jack. Somebody said I have too many things going on in my head, others that there's nothing in my head; probably the latter - what an idiot!!!

On the Seniors front the RMBA (Thursday Team) finished second but are still in the knock-out cup and play the final of the Top 10 at Portobello on 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept. There were mixed results for our two teams in the North & West league, Team A finished second but Team B dropped to third bottom. However, we will have representation on finals day at Coltbridge BC on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> Sept. at 2pm, where Gordon Munro and Stewart Mason in the Pairs and the Rink of Ian MacKay, Dave Stewart, Alan Mather and Eric McBain will fly the flag for the Club. If you can spare a few hours on Tuesday the Gents would appreciate your support.

Despite all the activity on the Green, the playing surface has held up remarkably well. Wear around the heads is inevitable given the usage but damage is not and it forced the closure of a few rinks over the past weeks to start emergency repairs - and we can't just blame our own Members for the damage, some visitors are culprits also. No doubt, discussions will take place before next season on how to try to avoid a repeat of the damage. You may have seen a number of canes sprouting up around the Green. Its not

Gordon Munro trying to grow Bamboo shoots, he's trying to encourage people to avoid newly seeded areas but it's not always working as people have been seen walking between the canes. Incredible. The Club took delivery of a new Tining machine at end of August. It spikes holes of varying depths in the Green to ease compaction and encourage aeration to promote healthy growth. Over the past two years around £10,000 has been spent on a new lawn mower, scarifier and now a new Tining machine and illustrates the Club's commitment to maintain the high standard of the Green. Talking of high standards, our Green Keeper Scott Powrie has to be commended on his excellent preparation of the Green. Not only does he cut the grass on his contracted days of Monday, Wednesday & Fridays but comes in on additional days when finals, special events are taking place. He keeps an eye on the condition of the Green and applies the treatments required to ensure it is maintained to a high level. Scott has responsibilities for about 6 Greens and is particularly pleased to hear of the many favourable comments about our Green as none of the other Greens have anything like the usage we have.

Bob Page, Bernie Callaghan and myself had the honour of playing for Edinburgh & Leith (over 60's) in the Matt Purdie Inter County Championships, winning the district final against West Fife on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August. It was the first time ELBA had reached the final so it was particularly pleasing to be part of the winning Team. We have again been selected for the Scottish Final when we play Dundee at Strathmiglo Bowling Club on 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. Apart from the personal honour; we hope that it further enhances the reputation of our Club.

### **Interested in a bit of embroidery?**

Ian McLaren has been asked by a club member to arrange for the CBC badge to be embroidered on a bowling garment. (As was done in the past for those going on tour). Ian is happy to open-up this request to any member wishing to have the club's badge on a personal item of clothing (e.g. Shirt/jersey/cardigan). The clothing to be provided by the member. Additionally, there is the opportunity to have a name embroidered. The cost (inclusive of VAT) would be £6 for the badge and £3 for a name. Anyone wishing to take up this offer should contact Ian direct on 334 5236. Orders, and items of clothing should be with Ian by 14<sup>th</sup> September.

**Public Hall up for Sale - no its not.** You may have seen a "For Sale" sign outside the Public Hall in Kirk Loan but it's not actually the Hall that is up for sale. The building is roughly split two thirds Public Hall and one third a private individual who owned office space and the Gymnasium where the fire started. That area has subsequently been sold a couple of times (at a big profit) and it is now on the market again. The Public Hall replacement project is very much alive and hopefully you will see things moving within the next few months.

### **On the Social Scene-**

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September – closing Night Cabaret. The return of the popular Jamie Mac. There is now a waiting list for this event. Unfortunately at our last few events, people have not turned up and its been too late to ask people on the waiting list, so please, if you have your name on the list make every effort to attend. The cost is £7 and payment should be made in advance.

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October – Andy Chung, Singer/guitarist

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November – Quiz & Bingo ( Kenny Orr)

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Cabaret.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December - although not an official Social event, the seniors Christmas lunch will take place on a Monday this year. There is also a waiting list for this popular event.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January – Burns Supper.

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March –**Country Style** - see John McPhail or Bill Cumming if you would like to take part in this event.

**Congratulations.** There are no significant birthdays in August, but then again, at our age every birthday is special, so have a good day whatever age you are.

I'm always looking for articles or little stories to tell so please drop me a note anytime.